

Jack McCoy

CSCI77800-Ethics

YOUR TASK:

Write up a review of the privacy policy for this product, suitable for a concerned student or parent, addressing:

- where a student's data is stored,
- who has access to it, and
- for how long. Also...
- How understandable is their EULA?
- Would you be comfortable as a parent if your child used this?
- As a student, forced to use it to participate in a course?

(It may be helpful when looking into these questions to use this as a guide: How does the company publishing this software make money?)

Khan Academy

Not for profit company that does not sell personal information to third parties, however it is shared. Khan Academy's goal is to provide a learning experience not to sell products. The data is stored on third party servers, and shared with other parties. It is unclear if this product encrypts ALL data at rest, but it does encrypt data on transfer. Khan Academy's EULA is extensive and filled with legalese. It is challenging to follow much of the 10,000+ words in their end user license agreement and terms of service.

As a parent I would be comfortable with a child using this platform. Ultimately, they have extra protections in place for users (students) under 13, that prevent them from sharing any personal information. The personal information required to use the software does not go far beyond age and email. Where information is not sold, and targeting marketing strategies are not in place. It is concerning how much is done with 3rd parties, just not knowing how they are using the data, but overall the exchange for a great learning program, I deem to be worth it for myself, my child or my student.

"Khan Academy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, mostly funded by donations coming from philanthropic organizations." *From the Khan Academy Support Page: Some of the major donors include Bank of America, College Board, Comcast, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Google.